

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING THE WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION

## HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, on May 4–6, 2002 more than 1200 students from across the United States visited Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of the We the People. . . The Citizen and the Constitution program, the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

I am proud to announce that the class from Incline High School from Incline Village represented the State of Nevada in this national event. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. The hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges on constitutional topics. The students' testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the judges who probe their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People. . . program has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. The program provides students with a working knowledge of our Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the principles of democratic government. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers and by participating in other educational activities.

It is inspiring to see these young people advocate the fundamental ideals of our government in the aftermath of September 11th. These ideas identify us as a people and bind us together as a nation. It is important for our next generation to understand these values and principles which we hold as standards in our endeavor to preserve and realize the promise of our constitutional democracy.

Independent studies by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) showed that students enrolled in the We the People. . . program at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels "significantly outperformed comparison students on every topic of the tests taken." Further, in a voting and civic participation survey of program alumni, 82% reported voting in the November 2000 election. In contrast, the National Election Studies reported a 48% turnout in the November 2000 election among Americans aged 18–30. This provides ample evidence that when students gain valuable knowledge about fundamental American val-

ues, they are more likely to participate in political life.

The class from Incline High School diligently conducted research and prepared for their participation in the national competition. I commend these young "constitutional experts" on their work for and commitment to the We the People. . . national finals. They represent the future leaders of our nation.

## D.A.R.E. GRADUATION, BERLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

## HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the students and staff of the Berlin Township School District on the occasion of their D.A.R.E. graduation, which took place on March 25th, 2002. I was honored to speak at the graduation ceremony, and I would like the names of all the D.A.R.E. graduates, officers and teachers recognized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

*Instructional Staff.*—Cathy Conicella, Kathy Arent, Judi Knopke, Denise Conn, Karen Okulanis, Sherie Troendle, Monica King, and Fabian Brown.

*D.A.R.E. Officers.*—Sgt. William Hill, Officer Rob Murray, and Officer Gary Sheehan.

*Supervisor of D.A.R.E.*—Robert E. Jackson, Jr.

*Support Staff.*—Oretta Thomas, Charlotte Cohen, Joan Mondile, and Mary Suard.

## FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS

D.A.R.E. Period 1.—Christopher Brooks, Melanie Dotts, Aarina Eleazer, Kelsey Greager, Kyle Greis, Joseph Hartshorne, Maria Lioliakis, Patrick McElroy, Ryan McElroy, Kelsey Odegaard, Stefani Pelly, Patrick Perez, Brittany Stalder, Lauren Strain, and Rebecca Swift.

D.A.R.E. Period 3.—Mejbah Ahmed, Anthony Cassario, Nathaniel Culbreath, Richard Fisher, Brianna Garrison, Scott Howard, Alexander Jannini, Ciarra Jones, Charles Lowe, Shawn Lowe, Maria Luciana, Matthew McDermott, Christina Peidl, Kaitlin Richards, Kelly Rodrigues, Tiffany Rodriguez, Alexander Rubolin, Jenney Sabin, Tenia Stansbury, and Tonya Toomer.

D.A.R.E. Period 5.—Matthew Bodanza, John Brecker, Amir Furlow, Brittney Hollowell, Kyle Laganella, Kimberly McKelvey, Marissa Pigliacelli, Margaret Reilly, John Ryan, Christian Smith, Sabrina Smith, Steven Smith, Tomasa Sotelo, Leisl Steinbach, Shanee Thornton, Ashley Tortu, Scott Tretina, Miranda Ulmer, Brandon Wall, and Michael Williams.

D.A.R.E. Period 6.—Kerrin Anderson, Christie Asquith, Henry Birkenheuer, Natalie Bossard, Donald Bowman, Chelsea Calahan, Vincent Carbonaro, Charles Dewland, Diana Gastelum, Christopher Hollimon, Nicole Jewell, Jiamas Johnson, Amanda Kearns, Nicholas Labree, Daniel Messick, Miranda Petersen, Daniel McCready, Michele Pruto, Amber Punihale, Monica Roehr, Logan Ryan, Kamal Uddin, and Bianca Vera.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 126, due to an illness in the family I had to be in my district. If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 126.

## STUDENT LOAN RATE

## HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak out against the Administration's proposal to change the federal student loan consolidation rates.

Last week it was reported that college loan rates could tumble to roughly 4 percent after July 1. A student with \$20,000 in debt would be able to save \$5,000 on a 20 year repayment plan with a fixed rate of 4.13 percent.

Just as millions of Americans are preparing for large savings on their student loans, the Administration decides to pull the rug out from under their feet by coming out with a proposal that prevents them from locking in low interest rates.

It seems as though this Administration wants to prevent students from moving ahead, after falsely leading them to believe that they would not be left behind.

Due to the efforts of Democrats in both bodies of Congress, the Administration was forced to withdraw their proposal. I am pleased that we were able to prevent this potentially devastating proposal. However, I am still angry that the Administration would try to finance their initiatives at the cost of students struggling to get ahead.

I encourage my colleagues to oppose any future measures that would make it more difficult for America's students to afford a college education.

## TRIBUTE TO NANCY BAILEY, WARREN, FCI FORT DIX, NEW JERSEY

## HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nancy Bailey, who retires on Saturday, June 1, 2002, after 27 years of distinguished service in our nation's correctional system.

Her rise through the ranks from her beginnings as a Correctional Officer in 1974 through various administrative positions within

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the Bureau of Prisons to her role as Warden of both Federal Correctional Institutions Safford, Arizona, and Fort Dix, New Jersey, is indicative of her commitment to the correctional system and the management of those in her care.

A Public Information Officer, Bureau of Prisons Auditor, Public Speaking Instructor and member of the Business and Professional Women's Club, Warden Bailey's involvement in the community plays an important role in her life. In her free time, she enjoys antiquing, gardening, reading and volunteering in the community.

Nancy and her husband, Jacob, plan to relocate to Glocester, Rhode Island, where she will teach Criminal Justice at a local college, sharing her decades of experience in the field with those just beginning a lifetime of service in the field of law and justice.

I congratulate her on her many years of commitment to public safety, and wish her a retirement filled with health, happiness and dreams come true.

HONORING COMMISSIONER  
DARRYL D. PERRYMAN FROM  
CAMDEN, ALABAMA

**HON. BOB RILEY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join The National Organization of Black County Officials, Inc (NOBCO) in honoring an outstanding leader in Alabama's Third Congressional District. On April 26th, Commissioner Darryl D. Perryman from Camden, AL, received the award for Outstanding County Official 2002 by NOBCO.

NOBCO Chairman Webster Guillory presented the award to Perryman during its Eighteenth Annual Economic Development Conference held in Biloxi, MS. When asked about his reward, Mr. Perryman humbly replied that he was in the business of helping people and doing the duties of an elected official.

I feel that it is necessary to recognize the success of our public officials in order to encourage future leaders of Alabama and the United States; therefore, I stand up before the United States Congress and America today to congratulate Mr. Perryman on his success as a public servant of Alabama and to thank him for all he has done for the great state of Alabama and its Third Congressional District.

MEDICATION ERROR PREVENTION  
ACT OF 2002

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, in late 1999, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued a major report on medical mistakes entitled "To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health Care System." This eye-opening study found that errors by health care professionals may result in the deaths of between 44,000 and 98,000 people in the United States every year, and injure countless others. Shockingly, more people die

from avoidable medical errors each year than from highway accidents, breast cancer, or AIDS.

Congress reacted swiftly to the IOM report. Some members of the House and Senate, including myself, introduced bills to implement the report's recommendations, and hearings on medical errors were held in various committees. But Congress sometimes has a short attention span. Despite the flurry of activity at the beginning of 2000, by the close of the session other health care debates had crowded out the medical error issue and no further action was taken on medical errors.

We cannot let another year go by without doing something about medical errors; therefore, I am reintroducing a medical errors bill and this time I plan to see it through to enactment. If the IOM estimate of the fatalities that result from medical errors is remotely close to accurate, Congress cannot wait another year to act.

According to the IOM, most medical errors do not result from individual recklessness, but from basic flaws in the way hospitals and other health care systems are organized. For example, deadly mistakes have resulted from stocking the patient-care units in hospitals with certain full-strength drugs that are toxic unless diluted. Confusion over similarly-named drugs is another major cause of medical mistakes: studies have shown, for instance, that confusion over the similarly-named drugs "Cefuroxime" and "Cefotaxime" accounted for numerous errors in the administration of these drugs.

Other errors result from the increased complexity and specialization of health care treatment. When a patient is treated by different doctors for different ailments, a particular practitioner may not have complete information about all treatments the patient is receiving, and may prescribe medication that is incompatible with other medications the patient is taking.

In recommending ways to reduce errors, the IOM focused on the need to encourage efficient and comprehensive reporting systems so that health care professionals can benefit from the experiences and "best practices" of their colleagues. Other sectors of the American economy have established coordinated safety programs that collect and analyze accident trends—such programs are commonplace, for example, in the transportation field. Yet there are few centralized systems for gathering and disseminating information on medical errors. For this reason, in my legislation, I specifically advocate for the use of MedMARx—a national, Internet-accessible reporting system designed to reduce medication errors in hospitals. This system allows hospitals to anonymously and voluntarily report, track, and monitor their medication errors, to identify trends, and to pinpoint problem areas. In order for systems like MedMARx to become successful though, participating hospitals and health care professionals must know that they can report problems encountered in clinical practice without endangering their careers. But according to the IOM, a major obstacle to the full implementation of medical error reporting programs is the threat that the reports themselves will be disclosed in civil litigation.

Naturally, hospitals are reluctant to generate documents that will be used against them in adversarial proceedings, so IOM called for enactment of an evidentiary privilege in federal

law against the disclosure of information provided to medical error reporting systems. In the legislation, I would protect the confidentiality of data on medical mistakes where the information is collected and analyzed solely for the purpose of improving safety and quality. Without this protection, hospitals and health care professionals fear that information reported might ultimately be subpoenaed and used in lawsuits against them, thereby discouraging their participation.

The time to act is now. Patients are literally killed by medical errors every day, yet Congress has not done anything to ensure that the IOM recommendations that could significantly reduce these tragic mistakes are signed into law. Working together, we can reduce medical errors and improve the quality of patient care in the United States.

HONORING WORK DONE BY PARTICIPANTS IN STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING AT UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

**HON. BERNARD SANDERS**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this spring at the University of Vermont. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see government do regarding these concerns.

UNDERAGE DRINKING

APRIL 8, 2002

MATT ALDEN. Good morning. Thank you, Congressman Sanders, for this opportunity. As I stand before you today, first I'd like to share a few facts about underage drinking.

According to the 2001 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 69 percent of Vermont students have consumed alcohol. 58 percent of Vermont seniors have had at least one alcoholic beverage in the past month. More importantly, one-third of our Vermont eighth-graders have consumed alcohol in the past 30 days. One out of four Vermont seniors binge-drink monthly, meaning they have consumed more than five drinks within a two-hour timeframe. 32 percent of Vermont seniors ride with a driver who has been drinking. 50 percent of young adult crashes in Vermont were alcohol-related, and half of those who died had been drinking. According to the 1999 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, half the Vermont seniors are sexually active. This may not seem relevant, but one-third had consumed alcohol before engaging in such activities. Underaged drinking costs society \$216 per man, woman and child in America, so therefore, we are not only losing human lives, we are also incurring more and more debt because of this problem. And lastly, according to the Mother's Against Drunk Driving national survey, approximately 100,000 American deaths were alcohol-related. This is two times more than the population of Vermont.

As you can see, Vermont really has a problem with underage drinking. Today I propose three solutions that will help Vermont's problem. My first two solutions come from the Vermont Youth Summit to Prevent Underaged Drinking. This was the first statewide summit held in America. Myself

and 51 other students from around the state gathered in March 2000 to create three recommendations to present to the Vermont legislature.

The two I am promoting today are, require every state ID to have a bar code or strip that can be swiped at the checkout. The bar codes will code your birthday and, when swiped through the machine, will tell the cashier if the buyer was eligible to purchase the alcohol.

The second recommendation is to have more funding for the Stop Teen Alcohol Risk Team. This is a team of local law enforcement which is hired just for breaking up large teenage parties where drinking taking place. Now, our state does not give the START team a lot of money, and no extra incentives are offered for working into the long night hours. If the START program had more money, the goal of having a team in each county would be met, thus making parties not such a common place for teens to engage in illegal consumption of alcohol.

The last and personal recommendation to help Vermont is that, if someone underage is drinking with a blood alcohol content above the legal limit, their license will be revoked until they turn 21. The legal blood-alcohol content level for a minor is .02, about one beer for an average-weight teen. I feel that, if a minor knows he or she will not be allowed to drive for a long period of time, they will think before getting into a car while intoxicated.

Now the punishment is revocation of your license for 90 days, a fine, and alcohol-treatment classes. These are good consequences, but people that are behind the wheel, drunk, endanger everyone they pass on the highway. If a license was taken away for a long period of time, they would realize the importance of staying sober behind the wheel.

I know these solutions will not bring underage drinking to a cease, but I believe, if it saves one person, it makes a difference.

Thank you, again, Mr. Sanders, for your time and this opportunity.

#### PEN PALS WITH PAKISTAN

APRIL 8, 2002

BETHANY WALLACE: I'm Bethany Wallace, and what we're talking about today is the pen pal program with Pakistan that our school has, in conjunction with Sara Siad from Bennington College, has established, and I guess what our hopes are is that, eventually, a program like this will be established, perhaps, statewide, and eventually nationwide.

The pen-pal program, we have sent two letters already and gotten one in return. Sara Siad is a student at Bennington College, and she is from Pakistan. I think she lives in Karachi, which is the most modern city in Pakistan, and it's kind like the metropolitan New York of Pakistan. And she has worked in a lot of public schools there and seen an interest that Pakistani students and young people have in American culture, much like we have in Pakistani culture.

What she did was to establish the pen-pal program, and we all wrote letters, and then she translated them and brought them to Pakistan when she went back on Christmas vacation. The students over there then wrote their letters, and she brought them back to us, and that is how it has been kind of working.

What it has done is opened a lot of doors to better understand the Pakistani culture, especially when our image of that culture has been so skewed by the media in light of September 11th.

KERRY MCINTOSH: It is just interesting, in the letters, we see their perspective on things, but we also see how we are more similar to the people in Pakistan than we

would have assumed. Like lots of us, there are just lots of different assumptions we have about people in Pakistan and what their views would be or something, and then they write in the letters, and it seems like, wow, they're really a lot like us.

I have two letters here. One of them is in Urdu, which is the native language of Pakistan. But, as Sara has told us, they also speak English fluently. And another wrote me a letter in English. I will read an excerpt. Like, when she talks about September 11th, she says. Like, first, just says, hello and, like, greets me and tells me a little bit about herself.

And now let's talk a little about the 11th of September. First of all, I want to commiserate you. It was really a shocking news. I know how hurt it must be for the people to bear the loss of their dear and near ones. It was a real horrible act of terrorism. While talking about terrorism, I do agree with the U.S. approach. But had Afghanistan handed over the culprit, it would have been much better.

You know, our President, Musharraf, was really in a bad position. It was really tough for him, whether or not to help the U.S., because some of the people in Pakistan were against the U.S. But the majority of the Pakistani population supported Mr. Musharraf's decision. But, you know, war isn't an alternative for peace. I really wish the world was a better place to live in.

I think I mentioned something political in the letter that I had written to her first, assuming that—like, not in a bad way, but just assuming that she would be a little more critical of the U.S., but then I found out that she really, like, was supportive, and that it is just like, a minority in Pakistan that is eminently anti-American people like we see protesting on the streets, and that they share our concerns and hopes for world peace.

ERICA HOLLNER. Like Kerry was saying, the main thing I think we are getting out of this is a better understanding of Pakistan, because we have these views that are so stereotypical, and we see—on TV and magazines, we see these poor people and see the refugee camps, and we think that the whole country is like that. But, in reality, a lot of the families that we are exchanging letters with are similar to us, and they're not poor, they have enough money to live comfortably, and it's a lot like the U.S. in a lot of ways, but we always think that it's all the same.

And Just that, they like the same kinds of things as we do. And I remember reading one letter that a girl was very interested in Princess Di, and you don't think of the fact that they think of the same things as we do, and they know about a lot of the same things too.

KATIE KERVORKIAN. We think that the program would be a great way to teach tolerance, just so that other people can understand what goes on, because many people don't know what is going on in the subcontinental countries, the Middle East. And to learn from someone that is our own age is different than learning from magazine or TV.

BETHANY WALLACE. And what Sarah has pointed out is that nothing is really off limits in the letters. If we bring it up first, then our pen pals aren't, you know, squeamish about talking about it, about communicating their views, and it is a great tool to better understand what is going on over there.

HONORING MR. JOHN NORTH OF NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Gallaher North of Nashville, Tennessee, on the occasion of his 90th birthday. The North family has contributed tremendously to the Nashville area through acts of kindness and leadership for many years.

Mr. North was born June 2, 1912, on Grandfather Lucas North's farm, one mile south of Ethridge, Tennessee, the son of John Ira North and Lula Mae Flippo North. He has survived all of his six brothers and sisters—Vester Pearl, Estella North Hendrix, Edith North Brown, Howard North, Kathleen North Sutton, and Irene North Harris.

A man of great integrity, North worked on the family farm in Southern Tennessee until the age of 30. At that time, he left the farm to work for Greyhound, where he spent some 32 years, retiring in 1975.

Over the past 30 years he has regularly volunteered at Madison Church of Christ in various capacities, including driving the church bus for the elderly, and conducting church services for the shut-in, sick, and hospitals. He currently continues this volunteer work in the food room of Madison Church of Christ.

North was married for 66 years, 2 months, to Ruby Butler North, who passed away on July 15, 1999. The couple had two sons, William, who died in 1995 and Don, who died in 1991. His grandson Johnny North lives in Lebanon, Tennessee.

Mr. North is to be commended for his vibrant love of life and devotion to faith and family. May he enjoy a memorable and happy birthday on June 2, 2002.

#### NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

#### HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, during National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, to honor our correctional officers for the work they do to keep our families safe. We do not thank these men and women enough for their service to our communities.

Day after day, week after week, our correctional officers work one of the most dangerous patrols in the country. They devote themselves to keeping violent felons behind bars, ensuring that our families can feel safe in our homes and on our streets. We know from the number of correctional officers who die in the line of duty each year that this is a dangerous profession that requires courage, hard work, and professionalism.

Our correctional officers are people like Bonnie Johnson, a mother of six, who works over 50 hours a week in a prison in Jackson, Michigan. For almost 20 years, Bonnie has put her heart and soul into her job. Or Rodney Olsson—a correctional officer with the Michigan prison system for roughly 14 years. Rodney drives over 60 miles to get to and from

work. These fine men and women work holidays, weekends, and double shifts. They deserve our support.

We need to do our part in the weeks and months ahead to pass legislation that will protect the safety and working conditions of correctional officers. We should act to prevent further privatization of our prisons, which puts both our officers and inmate populations at risk. We need to ensure that our correctional officers receive meaningful, reliable pensions, good benefits, and decent wages. And we should invest adequate resources in prison programs that provide constructive activities for inmates that reduce recidivism and prevent violence.

The work of our correctional officers gets more and more difficult with each passing day. In my home state of Michigan, the prison population has grown 38 times faster than our general population. And records show our inmate population is getting more violent. I commend Michigan's correctional officers for staying committed to the job despite these additional challenges.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution offered by Representatives STRICKLAND, SWEENEY, HORN, and HOLDEN that officially recognizes National Correctional Officers and Employees Week. This resolution also requests that our President issue a proclamation urging citizens to honor our correctional officers and the work they do to protect us. We should pass this resolution without delay and give our correctional officers the respect they deserve for their service.

# EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

SPEECH OF

**HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2002*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "quiet is the absence of noise, but peace requires the presence of justice."

As Americans, that is our charge and our challenge in the Middle East. We seek not only to establish quiet from bombs and bullets, but also to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace. Even at this dark hour of death and destruction, peace is still possible in the Middle East.

Although involving Arabs and Jews, the crisis in the region is not an ethnic problem. While it invokes Judaism and Islam, it is not a religious problem. Though engulfing an ancient land, it is not an archaic problem. At its root, the crisis between the Israelis and the Palestinians is a political problem requiring a political solution, not a military one. It is intractable, but not impossible. And, it demands American engagement and American leadership to solve.

Our proper and necessary role in the region must be that of an honest and balanced broker, a mediator between the two sides, and a facilitator of peace. A broker understands and honors the needs, fears and aspirations of each and must maintain the trust and confidence of both. A mediator talks and listens to both sides, steps in the gaps of distrust and

enmity, and reconciles differences and disputes. A facilitator recognizes and holds both sides accountable for the obligations and compromises each side must make for progress and peace.

Undoubtedly, just as it takes more than one party to make war, it takes more than one party to make peace. While we have no closer friend and ally than Israel, it is not our only friend and ally. Our interests are broad and should not be restricted to just one country in the entire region.

To do so, would compromise our own long-term national interests, diminish our standing and influence in the world, and abdicate our role and responsibility as the sole Superpower. Such a move would be tragic for us and for them, leaving both sides with no final arbiter, no place to turn other than violence.

It's time to break that vicious cycle. It's time to end the bloodshed and the heartbreak. It's time to do everything in our power to encourage both sides to make the hard choices and to take the daring steps toward peace.

Yet, instead of leadership and vision, this Congress has offered an unbalanced, untimely and counterproductive resolution. Because of what is in it and what is not, H. Res. 392 is not what is needed now. It is not constructive. It will not advance peace. I cannot support it.

This resolution rightly demonstrates support for the security of Israel. We recognize Israel's vulnerable position amidst a hostile neighborhood and unequivocally support and defend its right to exist within secure and internationally recognized boundaries.

However, this resolution wrongly omits statements of support for Palestinian self-determination and national rights. We should reaffirm our support for the right of the Palestinians to have their own state with secure and internationally recognized boundaries.

This resolution correctly condemns and opposes the use of terrorism and suicide bombings that intentionally targets and kills innocent Israeli civilians. We uphold Israel's right to combat legitimate targets and prevent such savage and brutal attacks.

Yet, this measure unfairly ignores the Israeli occupation and settlements on Palestinian territory. In a recent editorial, *The New York Times* stated, "Just as terror is the greatest Palestinian threat to Middle East peace, so are settlements on territory captured in the 1967 war the greatest Israeli obstacle to peace. They deprive the Palestinians of prime land and water, break up Palestinian geographic continuity, are hard to defend against Palestinian attack and complicate the establishment of a clear, secure Israeli border."

H. Res. 392 properly cites the mounting death toll and carnage caused by Palestinian attackers on Israelis. We mourn their deaths and share their grief. Yet, the measure makes only passing reference to Palestinian casualties and no mention at all of Israel's controversial incursion into Jenin, where the debris, devastation and death warrant an impartial investigation and an international humanitarian response.

Perhaps most unsettling is the imperfect analogy within which this resolution is framed. The measure equates America's war on terrorism with Israel's campaign in the West Bank. But, such a clear and convenient comparison is not so easy to make and, as *The Washington Post* observed, "overlooks this contest for territory and sovereignty underlying the Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed."

Surely, Israel is justified in protecting itself and uprooting terrorism. While war is disastrous and often messy, it does not justify deliberately raiding and wrecking banks, schools, streets, and municipal buildings. Yet, the Israeli offensive in the West Bank not only dismantled the terrorist infrastructure, but also systematically destroyed the civil infrastructure and institutions of Palestinian self-government. They are not one in the same. Yet, both lay in ruin. If only for their own sake and standing, Israel must adopt a policy that differentiates between the two. And, the world should know that we know the difference as well.

In this bloody stalemate, one side is not entirely at fault and the other completely free of it. Both sides know fear. Both know hardship. Both know suffering and tragedy. But, instead of comparing and measuring wounds, we should aid in healing them. Rather than concentrating on the failures of war, we should focus on the possibilities of peace.

Peace should be the crux and motive of this measure. But, it is not, and so the Administration asked the House not to consider it. Yet, despite the objections, Congress does so anyway.

In lieu of H. Res. 392, Congress should offer its imprimatur, its influence, and its ideas to animate and encourage efforts to pave a pathway to peace. We know that the framework already exists in U.N. Resolution 242, 338, 1397, 1402, Oslo, and most recently, the Saudi Peace Initiative. We know that the basic formula is land for peace. We know that an economic recovery plan is necessary to rebuild and revitalize the region. We know that an international presence is required to sustain a final negotiated settlement. Now, we, the United States, must help to figure out how to forge it and flesh it out.

Undoubtedly, it will be hard. At the very least, it will require the commitment of the Israelis and the Palestinians. Both sides must meet the challenge and give to the other what it wants for itself—dignity, security and peace.

Ultimately, there will and must be two nations—Israel and a Palestinian state—living as neighbors, both sovereign, secure, stable, free and democratic. Only then, after such a long and tumultuous nightmare, Israelis and Palestinians will wake up in the Holy Land to a new morning. And, to peace.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO KAY HALL

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I am particularly honored to rise today and congratulate and extend birthday wishes to an outstanding member of the Farmington Hills community, Kay Hall.

Over the past twenty-six years, Ms. Hall has served as a director for Mary Kay Cosmetics. On May 4, 2002, Kay makes her debut as a National Sales Director for Mary Kay, and this day also marks her 65th birthday. Kay's outstanding service has earned her a plethora of honors, including twenty-one years of free pink Cadillacs. Additionally, Kay has been honored for twenty years with membership in Unit Clubs, and fifteen years in the Half Million Dollar Unit Club. To top it off, Kay is Detroit's first Million Dollar Director.

In her twenty-four years as a director of Mary Kay Cosmetics, Kay has served as a shining example of determination and hard work. While her efforts have produced bonuses and excursions to exotic locations such as Hong Kong and Switzerland, she remains committed to her family. She has four adult children and three grandchildren, not to mention her husband, Robert Zuckerman. I know they are proud of Kay's many achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join Kay Hall's colleagues in commending her for her many years of exemplary and dedicated service to Mary Kay Cosmetics. Her debut as a National Sales Director is a deserved honor indeed. Ms. Hall has left an indelible mark on not only the Mary Kay community, but also on southeastern Michigan. Again, I extend my congratulations and birthday wishes.

#### RECOGNIZING KENTUCKY'S NURSES

#### HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an important group of Kentuckians who continue to exhibit an incredible dedication to serving others. Nurses remain an integral part of our Kentucky community, as they are vital to our well-being and survival. The American Nurses Association and the Kentucky Nurses Association have declared May 6 to May 12, 2002 as Kentucky Nurses' week, and I encourage all Kentuckians to join with me in honoring the nursing profession.

The men and women of the nursing profession proudly represent all races, religions and creeds in a variety of settings. Whether serving in a large hospital, a small doctor's office or in one of their many other capacities, nurses are committed to providing quality health care to all citizens. As the nation's largest group of health professionals, nurses are assuming an ever increasing responsibility and accountability for their community's health care needs. They have continued to demonstrate their professionalism by striving to upgrade care standards and improve their services. In fact, I'm sure we can all remember a time where a nurse's kind words, or gentle smile, provided comfort.

With a wide variety of responsibilities, nurses are always prepared to offer the best possible health care to their patients. Nurses are there to help the sick get better and to make sure the healthy stay that way. Appropriately, the Kentucky theme this year is "Unsung Heroes." I am proud to call attention to all of the nurses in our Kentucky community and hope you will join with me in celebrating the tireless efforts of our "unsung heroes."

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-DULUTH ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

#### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the University of Minnesota-Duluth Women's Hockey team and the University of Minnesota Men's Hockey and Wrestling teams for winning the 2002 National Collegiate Athletic Association championships. This great achievement honors the players, coaches, their respective schools and all Minnesotans.

The sport of hockey has a long and storied tradition in Minnesota and is recognized nationally as one of the leading states for the development of hockey players. From youth leagues to amateur leagues to professional players, Minnesota is known for producing some of the greatest hockey players in the history of the sport. It is only fitting, therefore, that both the women and men's hockey 2002 NCAA Championships were won by Minnesota schools.

Both the Bulldogs' 3-2 victory over Brown, which was their second in a row, and the Gophers' 4-3 victory over Maine were exhilarating wins, that kept all Minnesotans on the edge of their seats. Each of these teams deserves to be commended for their outstanding seasons.

I also want to recognize the 2002 Gophers men's wrestling team for another outstanding year. While not as well known as hockey, collegiate wrestling in Minnesota has made an outstanding name for itself, culminating in the Gophers' 2002 National Championship—also their second straight. In addition to the team championship, 2 members of the team earned individual wrestling titles and 7 garnered All-American honors. All the Gophers wrestlers and coaches deserve our congratulations.

I am especially proud that each of these three teams excelled in the classroom, as well as the playing field. In a day and age where all-too-often academics takes a back seat to athletics on many college campuses, all three teams maintained grade point averages that were above the university averages. The University of Minnesota and Minnesota-Duluth should be proud to recognize these true student athlete champions.

Congratulations to the University of Minnesota and University of Minnesota-Duluth on their achievements.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE NURSE EDUCATION PROMOTION ACT

#### HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Nurses Week, and I am pleased today to join my good friend ERNIE FLETCHER in introducing important legislation that helps address the nursing shortage. Nurses constitute the nation's largest group of healthcare

professionals. They serve in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, managed care facilities and community health centers, and their work is invaluable.

Unfortunately, there is an emerging labor shortage among this group of healthcare professionals. Fewer and fewer people are choosing nursing as a career. According to the General Accounting Office, between 1993 and 1996 enrollments at two-year associate degree programs dropped 11%, while enrollments at three-year diploma programs dropped 42%. Between 1995 and 1998, enrollments at four-year bachelors programs dropped 19%. Even so, the demand for nurses is increasing, and it will only grow as the baby boomers retire. The Congressional Research Service projects that the supply of nurses will fail to meet demand by 2010.

This crisis threatens to compromise the quality of healthcare in this country. Indeed, the Department of Health & Human Services reports that there is a "strong and consistent relationship" between nurse staffing and patient health. The GAO reports that between 2000 and 2030, the group of Americans who are 65 years of age and older will double. At the same time, the number of women between 25 and 54—the group that traditionally comprises most of the nursing workforce—is expected to remain the same. Mr. Speaker, more than ever we need nurses to care for our seniors. Unless we create incentives and opportunities for men and women to choose nursing as a career, this country will face a crisis in this decade.

To address this problem, my friend ERNIE FLETCHER and I have today introduced the bipartisan Nurse Education Promotion Act. Our bill addresses the nursing shortage in a number of important ways. First, it would establish a competitive grant program for associate degree nursing schools to be used for nursing student recruitment, student scholarships, and the hiring of faculty. Second, the bill would establish a competitive grant program for professional nurses associations, so that they may establish and administer continuing education programs, in cooperation with area hospitals and higher education institutions.

Under the continuing education programs, the nurses association would coordinate class work at a central location for which nurses could receive college credit towards a BSN (or equivalent degree) and/or training in an understaffed and critical nursing specialty. The clinical portion of the continuing education could be done at any of the participating hospitals.

While we support other legislation to alleviate the nursing shortage, we believe that by focusing on the two-year schools our bill gets nurses into the field more quickly. By providing money for continuing education, we hope to ensure that nurses are able to meet the changing and increasingly complex demands of our healthcare system. We hope our colleagues will join us in our efforts to alleviate the nursing shortage and head off a major healthcare crisis that is just on the horizon.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DOUG DEAN

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Doug

Dean and thank him for his contributions in the Colorado General Assembly. His hard work and dedication is appreciated, and I am honored to pay tribute to him today before this body of Congress. As he moves on in his career, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, am grateful for the work he has done for the state, and the Colorado General Assembly.

During his time in the Colorado State House of Representatives, Doug has provided his leadership to many legislative endeavors. Currently he serves the assembly as Speaker of the House, and has served on numerous committees during his tenure, notably the Executive committee, Legislative Council, the Business Affairs, Labor, State, Veterans, and Military Affairs committees. He has provided his focus and leadership not only as speaker, but also as Vice-Chairman of the Education committee and as House Majority Leader from 1999 to 2000. He has remained committed to many ideals throughout his terms, and has promoted the issues of education, judiciary affairs, telecommunications, law enforcement, and commerce.

In addition to his duties as a state representative, Doug is known as a devoted husband to Gloria, loving father of three, and is an active member of his community. He is a small business owner, and can often be found volunteering his time and energies as a volunteer parent for the United Way and on the sports field as a volunteer coach for youth baseball teams.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to bring to the attention of this body of Congress the accomplishments of Doug Dean and his service to Colorado. His contributions to his state and constituents, as both a member of the Colorado General Assembly and community volunteer, are an example of public and civic commitment to us all. Thanks for your leadership and commitment to Colorado, Doug, and I wish you all the best in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO AARON ZACK PHILLIPS, SBA 2002 YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**  
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce to my colleagues that the American dream is alive and well in Rochester, New York. It can be found embodied in a Rochester businessman and booster who, though only 25 years old, has already achieved what others spend a lifetime trying to accomplish. His name is Aaron Zack Phillips, and he is president of Kink BMX, a manufacturer and distributor of BMX bicycle parts and related soft goods. He is also this year's national winner of the SBA's 2002 Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Zack's middle name is self-reliance—a character trait always present in American dreamers. From the age of 12, he juggled school and part-time jobs like throwing papers or flipping hamburgers at fast food restaurants. By 18, he was the assistant manager for a local home improvement store, in charge of payroll, scheduling and inventory.

But at the same time that Zack was working for others, he was beginning his own busi-

ness—out of pure frustration. Because the bicycle parts he bought kept breaking down, he decided that he could make them better and stronger—and did. Then, with the help of a media kit from a trade magazine and an advertising budget, he began selling them to other cyclists at competitions and skate parks.

The rest is history, hard work and an entrepreneurial drive that just won't stop—always necessary components in any successful American dream. At the age of 25, Zack now runs a million dollar business employing 6 people, which both manufactures the Kink line and distributes its products throughout the Midwest and California, as well as in Europe, Canada, Australia and Japan. He didn't do all this totally alone. Along the way, the U.S. Small Business Administration stepped in to guarantee the loans this young man could not get without its help, reminding us once again what a beneficial service this small Federal agency makes in the lives of Americans with lofty goals and high-flying dreams.

I am so proud of this young man—proud that he dreamed his dream, then made it a reality. But what really endears me to him is the way he ties his own economic well-being to that of his home-town. On every mailing, logo, brochure and marketing tool, he prints the words "Rochester Made Means Quality Made," along with archival prints of our city and High Falls.

That slogan might just as well describe Aaron Zack Phillips, the SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONWIDE GUN BUYBACK ACT OF 2002

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Nationwide Gun Buyback Act of 2002 (NGBA) to mark Mother's Day, in recognition of the strong support mothers across the nation have demonstrated for gun safety, and in light of continued gun violence in our communities. The NGBA would provide \$100 million in federal funds to local jurisdictions to hold gun buyback programs similar to the successful programs conducted by the District of Columbia and other cities over the last three years. Under the bill, funds would be distributed through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and, after evaluation of proposals, added weight would be given to jurisdictions with the greatest incidence of gun violence. The NGBA would require that a jurisdiction certify that it is capable of destroying the guns within 30 days, that it can conduct the program safely, and that an amnesty appropriate for the jurisdiction will be offered. Not only individuals, but groups such as gangs could take advantage of the buyback provisions to bring in guns and encourage street gangs to disarm themselves.

Families, and especially mothers, fear guns in their homes, but have not known how to get rid of them. In many jurisdictions, a grandmother, father or other family member may be petrified that there is a gun in the house but cannot turn it in without subjecting the family member or her grandson to possible prosecution. This unintended result of gun safety leg-

islation is reason enough for the amnesty achieved through gun buyback efforts.

This bill is necessary because, despite the extraordinary demonstrated success of the gun buyback program in the District, in which over \$528,000 was spent to recover 6,250 firearms in three buybacks, local jurisdictions lack readily available funds for similar programs. The experience of the District of Columbia is instructive. The District was forced to find money on an ad hoc basis and ran out of funds despite indications that there were many residents who still desired to turn in guns. Initially, the District conducted a pilot program using funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The response of the public was so strong, with residents standing in long lines, that the Police Department took the program citywide, using drug asset forfeiture funds. Even so, after using \$290,000, the city ran out of funds, but not of guns that could have been collected.

The guns were considered a "good buy" because they were unlicensed and illegally possessed, but hard-pressed jurisdictions, especially big cities, should not have to rob Peter to pay Paul when it comes to public safety. The federal government can play a unique and noncontroversial role in reducing gun violence by providing the small amount authorized by my bill, \$100 million, to encourage buybacks efforts where they can be helpful.

With this bill, we are taking the gun buyback leadership of the District and other cities nationwide. We have demonstrated a faster and easier way to get guns where criminals cannot use them and children and adults cannot misuse them. Gun buyback efforts are not new, but the recent, dramatic impact of the program of the District and other jurisdictions have special bipartisan and natural appeal today because the program is voluntary and requires no change in local laws. My bill has the added feature of skirting the present stalemate in the Congress, where we have yet to pass a gun safety bill. A gun buyback bill is no substitute for gun safety legislation, but my bill is based on demonstrated and successful experience in a number of cities that have achieved voluntary compliance by citizens with local laws.

Two years ago this weekend, almost a million mothers and their families gathered on the Mall to demand that Congress heed their call to enact strong gun safety legislation. These families believed that the federal government has an obligation to help protect our children and all our citizens. It is time that we fulfill that obligation by at least passing a bill that takes guns out of unauthorized hands.

I urge my colleagues to support this vital legislation.

#### CONGRATULATING GEN. CHARLES CUNNINGHAM

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. General (RET) Charles J. Cunningham, Jr., the Director of the Defense Security Service (DSS). General Cunningham is retiring from his position on May 31, 2002 after 43 years of service to his country.



For over four decades, Lt. General Chuck Cunningham has worked in a tireless and selfless manner, serving our nation with great distinction. He began his career as an officer in the United States Air Force. As a fighter pilot, Chuck flew 366 combat missions in Vietnam, earning numerous awards including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with 27 Oak Leaf Clusters. He served as a commander at all levels of the Air Force originating in the 480th Tactical Fighter Squadron and ascending into the 12th Air Force.

Following several successful years in the private sector, Chuck began his second government career, serving in many positions ranging from Commandant of the Joint Military Intelligence College to Senior Regional Representative for the Defense Intelligence Agency in Europe. During the past three years as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense (Intelligence), General Cunningham made one of the most important contributions to our country over the course of his illustrious career. Through his indomitable perseverance, General Cunningham inspired his agency, the Defense Security Service, by leading it through a challenging transformation, enabling the DSS to reach its full potential as a critical element in our national security framework. For his effort, General Cunningham earned the prestigious Defense Civilian Distinguished Service Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in congratulating Chuck Cunningham as he prepares to begin a new phase of his life. Words alone do not give Justice to the integrity, pride and professionalism of this officer and gentleman. He is an inspiration to every American and a role model for all public servants. Thank you, Chuck, for the dedication of your life's work to the service of our nation and its people.

#### EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

SPEECH OF

**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2002*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I am amazed that this Resolution has been placed on the calendar for a vote. All last week the newspapers have been reporting that the White House has been urging that it not be brought up. Following the trip to the Middle East by Secretary Colin Powell and following the recent discussions by the President himself with Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia real progress has been made. There is agreement to have a peace conference. Yasser Arafat was freed by the Israelis from his compound in Ramallah. Things have been delicately put in place for a political solution to be agreed to. Why would the President's own party leader want to take the chance of upsetting these hard won points? The answer must be that they do not want Peace. If they were for Peace, they would be willing to give Peace a chance.

If they had to say something to indicate continuing support for Israel in the difficult times it faces, they could have agreed to the Senate Resolution 247, offered by Senator JOSEPH

LIEBERMAN. I would have voted for this resolution. It was balanced and urged all parties in the region to pursue vigorously efforts to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive Peace in the Middle East.

Congress should allow the President and his Secretary of State to work for a settlement. I object to taking up this Resolution at this time and therefore will vote "Present".

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT GUSTAFSON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay respect to the passing of Robert Gustafson, who recently passed away after almost a century of commitment to his community and his state. Robert was a pillar of the Grand Junction, Colorado community, and as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate to remember Robert and pay tribute to him for his contributions to Colorado.

Robert was a shining example of a man thoroughly involved in his community. Robert was a member of the National Rifle Association, the Orchard Mesa Gun Club and the Lutheran Church. He was a past district leader of the Grand Junction YMCA, a past commissioner of the Health and Safety Boy Scout Western Council, a merit badge counselor to the Boy Scouts Western Council, and a lifetime member of the Colorado Association of School Boards and the National Association of School Boards. In an effort to serve his community, Robert gave his time and leadership as the Vice President of Grand Junction Kiwanis Club, as Vice President of the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce and President of the Wiseman's Club Grand Junction. Robert also served his country proudly during World War II as a member of the Ration Board.

Robert was known for his love of outdoor activities, including fly fishing and gardening, and was well known for his abilities as a silver smith, gunsmith, and woodworker. His musical abilities on both the violin and the saxophone were well regarded, and he was the first chair violinist in the Mesa College Symphony Orchestra. Robert was a favorite uncle of many nieces and nephews and will be remembered by many for his kind soul and gentle spirit.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Robert Gustafson for his contributions to the Grand Junction community. His dedication to his family, friends, work, and community certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Although Robert has left us, his good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those he touched. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Robert's family and friends during this difficult time of bereavement.

#### HEMATOLOGICAL CANCER RESEARCH INVESTMENT AND EDUCATION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to my good friend and distinguished former member of New York's congressional delegation Geraldine Ferraro. Last week on the House floor, during the debate on H.R. 2629, the Hematological Cancer Research Investment and Education Act, several members spoke of Ms. Ferraro's work on behalf of this legislation. I would like to join my colleagues in praise of Geraldine Ferraro.

Ms. Ferraro continues to be an inspiration to all citizens of this country by her life-long devotion to public service. Her recent decision to forego her privacy and disclose her personal struggle with blood cancer, in order to raise public awareness of the disease, is yet another example of her courage and compassion. In 2002, approximately 106,000 individuals will be diagnosed with hematological cancers, including leukemia, Hodgkin's disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and multiple myeloma. Taken together, the hematological cancers are fifth among cancers in incidence. Although there has been impressive progress in the last 50 years in understanding the cause and treatment of blood-related cancers, much more research needs to be done. Ms. Ferraro's advocacy for more research has resulted in the "Geraldine Ferraro Cancer Education Program" which provides funding for the treatment and detection of blood-related cancers.

Ms. Ferraro has been a hero of mine for a long time. We both started our careers as teachers in the New York City school system. Before she changed history by being the first woman vice-presidential candidate on a national party ticket, she spearheaded efforts to pass the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) while serving in Congress. I am proud to continue the work begun by Ms. Ferraro more than 20 years ago by sponsoring the current equality amendment (H.J. Res 40). I can think of no better tribute to Ms. Ferraro than passage of the equality amendment in the 107th Congress.

Passage of H.J. Res. 40 will improve the quality of life for women in this country which is Ms. Ferraro's legacy. In addition to the ERA, Ms. Ferraro sponsored the women's Economic Equity Act, which ended pension discrimination against women, provided job options for displaced homemakers and enabled homemakers to open IRAs. After she left Congress, she served as United States Ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Commission. In September 1995, she served as Vice-Chair of the U.S. Delegation at the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing. I was also honored to be a member of the delegation.

We are all indebted to Geraldine Ferraro for her courage and resilience in facing difficult issues. I wish to publicly commend her for her remarkable career in public service which continues today through her personal efforts to increase understanding of blood-related cancers.

TRIBUTE TO LATA' BRIONE FOSTER, AAA 58TH ANNUAL TRAFFIC SAFETY POSTER CONTEST WINNER

### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize a delightfully artistic five-year-old of Rochester, New York. Lata' Brione Foster has been selected, out of 83,000 entries, to win the Grand Award in the 58th Annual Traffic Safety Poster Contest sponsored by AAA.

The poster contest encourages students from Kindergarten through High School to create a poster concept that encourages correct behavior in pedestrian, bicycle, and driving techniques. The program promotes creativity and teaches students the importance of traffic safety. Miss Foster's poster will be used in the association's national safety campaign for the next year.

The first kindergartner from Western New York to win a Grand Award, Lata' will receive a \$500 savings bond from AAA. Lata' is also being honored in Washington, DC on May 3rd through 7th for Traffic Safety Week. She had the pleasure of being the Grand Marshall in the annual Safety Patrol Parade down Constitution Avenue on May 4th.

On behalf of the 28th district of New York, I congratulate Lata' Brione Foster for her hard work on such an innovative piece of art. Lata' has received a wonderful accolade and we all truly wish her many more in the future. I am sure that this is not the last time we will hear of young Lata' doing magnificent things.

### TRIBUTE TO KAITLIN McCLOUGHLIN

### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kaitlin McLoughlin, a young woman from Troy, Michigan who has been awarded the 2002 Michigan AAA Club Patroller of the Year and the National Club Patroller of the Year.

The AAA School Safety Program began in 1920 and now includes more than 500,000 patrollers in 50,000 schools across the United States and Canada. This program helps ensure the safety of younger children while teaching responsibility to the older children.

Kaitlin has served as the Safety Patrol Captain at Our Shepherd Lutheran School for the past two years. In that capacity, she is responsible for escorting the children into the school, maintaining a weekly record of her safety squad, organizing the safety squad and assigning duty stations.

Her school principal has described Kaitlin as dependable, clear thinking, calm and well-respected. She is also very well-rounded. Kaitlin is co-captain of the school cheering squad, vice-president of the student council, acts as Mistress of Ceremonies for the school talent show and serves as co-chair for the school dance. She also helps with various school fundraisers and works in the local food bank.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Kaitlin and all this year's award recipients for their lifesaving contributions to the safety of their fellow students.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber on April 30, 2001 when rollcall votes Nos. 117, 118 and 119 were cast. I want the record to show that had I been present in this chamber at the time these votes were cast, I would have voted "yea" on each of these rollcall votes.

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDWIN GEORGE PERLMUTTER

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor today to recognize the accomplishments of Edwin George Perlmutter and his tenure in the Colorado General Assembly. For many years, Ed has faithfully served his constituents and fellow Coloradans in his service to civil, business, and volunteer communities. He is now leaving the state assembly to pursue new undertakings, and as he finds use for his talents elsewhere, I can think of no better way to thank Ed for his hard work and service than to bring forth his accomplishments before this body of Congress, and this nation.

Ed is an attorney providing law services to his community with the firm of Berenbaum, Weinshienk & Easton, P.C. since 1978. In 1994, he began his political career in the state senate and has served as Vice-Chair of the Public Policy and Planning committee, and a member of the Legal Services and Legislative Council committees. He is well regarded as a selfless volunteer to needy causes and divides his time among various charities in his area. He serves as a member of the Applewood Business Association, as well as the West, Northwest and Golden Chambers; and is frequently seen providing his energy to multiple sports youth associations, Maple Grove Elementary School, the Girl Scouts, and the Applewood Community Church. When Ed is not working in the legislature he is serving in his other role as loving husband and devoted father of three children.

Mr. Speaker, Ed has long been a valued member of our Colorado community, both as an elected official and as a citizen. While I am sure he will be missed in the Colorado State Senate, I know that he will undoubtedly succeed in his future undertakings and I am proud to be able to bring his hard work and dedication to the attention of this body of Congress, and this nation. Thank you Ed, for all of your hard work for Colorado and good luck in your future endeavors.

HONORING CHARLES R. (CHUCK)  
HUGGINS ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Chuck Huggins for the 30 years of service he has given to the State of Arizona. Chuck will be retiring as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Arizona AFL-CIO in May. He has served the people of Arizona well and his dedication and professionalism will be missed.

Chuck knows the challenges and rewards of being a working man. He started as an Apprentice Electrician in 1964 and soon became a Journeyman Electrician in both the mining and construction industries.

As an active member of Local 518 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, he began showing the skills and instincts necessary for leadership. But, in today's world, he knew that hard work was sometimes not enough. He realized that education was important, too. So he continued to educate himself in accounting and business management at Eastern Arizona College and the University of Houston.

Chuck has pioneered innovative programs to help Arizona's workers be better prepared to meet the economic demands of our State. He has initiated training initiatives and re-training programs that have ensured that union members who have fallen behind due to no fault of their own can meet the challenges they may face in new work environments. He has served on the Governor's Workforce Development Committee, and is an active member of his church.

Chuck believes the most effective way to build strong communities is through the organization of strong individuals. He has led the AFL-CIO members through many difficult years, when some believed that Unions were dead and they no longer spoke for the average working American. Chuck proved all this wrong and has shown his fellow Union members that they have a place at the table, they are a force, and they are the strength and backbone of our communities and society.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that Chuck will be missed by his fellow union members and all working people. But, even more, he will be missed by the people in Arizona. Chuck kept us honest because he was honest. He knew that a hard day's work rendered a hard earned reward. He knew that if you paid the price, you moved ahead. And he showed us all how to pay the price.

Chuck, we all wish you health and happiness and give thanks for your showing us the way.

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID McKINNON

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2001 winner of the International Franchise Association's Entrepreneur of the Year award, David



McKinnon. As CEO and chairman of Service Brands International, Mr. McKinnon is dedicated to vision, leadership, perseverance, integrity and ethics.

Mr. Speaker, this award is bestowed on someone who exemplifies the "entrepreneurial spirit" that franchising represents. A person who demonstrates innovative management skills, is a risk taker and remains active in his or her community. David McKinnon certainly possesses all of these qualities. He has spent his career building, losing, re-obtaining, and rebuilding a top quality franchise that now sets the standard for others.

Mr. McKinnon started out his career with a small company known as Molly Maid. Today, the Service Brands International serves as the umbrella company for, not only Molly Maid, but also Mr. Handyman, 1-800-DryClean, Wee Watch, Certified Restoration DryClean Network, and Fran Tech.

This award should not go without recognition. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to David McKinnon for his outstanding achievements in business and in wishing him continued success.

#### EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

SPEECH OF

**HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2002*

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of H. Res. 392, which expresses our solidarity with Israel in its fight against terrorism. It is important to stand with our friend and ally, Israel, in times of stress and turmoil. While I have great sympathy for the loss of life of innocent Palestinians, I dare say that if our hometowns were being attacked by suicide bombers—no matter what their grievance—we would respond much the same way as Israel! Witness our war in Afghanistan. Civilian casualties are the ultimate cost of terrorism and the inevitable military response it provokes.

While we stand strongly with Israel, we must not confuse passing a resolution with finding workable solutions to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Congress needs to press the Administration for a resolution to the conflict. To his credit, President Clinton tried mightily in his last days of office to broker a final settlement and came very close. However, Yasser Arafat refused a deal which many leaders around the world felt was reasonable.

Unfortunately, the Bush Administration did not stay the course. Neglected, the conflict festered until the events of September 11th brought it back to the forefront of U.S. foreign policy. Now that the Administration is engaged in the peace effort with Secretary Powell as our highly competent point man, we need to stay engaged.

We cannot, however, go it alone. In an age of global interdependence, we will need constructive assistance from the so-called 'quartet'—the U.S., EU, U.N. and Russia—to help foster a deal that is fair to both sides. We must also push moderate Arab states to play a more constructive role in the region, as Secretary Powell has begun to do. Yasser Arafat

will not accept a peace agreement that the Arab world believes to be unfair to the Palestinians. Their cooperation is essential.

Stephen Rosenfeld's April 30th Op-Ed in the Washington Post suggested that perhaps it is time to reconsider our strategy in the Middle East. Endgame issues such as refugees, Jerusalem and the security of Israel's border should not be relegated to some unspecified date. This strategy has only resulted in piecemeal, and ultimately, unsatisfactory agreements. These tough issues should be clarified early on so that both parties can see the full scope of a peace settlement.

In addition to Israel's security, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia risk being significantly destabilized if a lasting peace agreement is not reached. Also, our objectives in dealing with Saddam Hussein are significantly complicated by the continued violence in the Middle East.

Thus, while we have to stand with Israel in her fight against terrorism, we also have to stand and work for peace. It is in Israel's interest and ultimately, our own.

#### TRIBUTE TO PAULA BARTON, GOODWILL INDUSTRIES INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE OF THE YEAR

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding constituent: Paula Barton, Goodwill Industries International's 2002 Graduate of the Year.

Ms. Barton is a team leader at ADT Security Service's Rochester Dispatch Center, where she supervises fifteen people and schedules installations and service for technicians. But Ms. Barton is not simply a capable and competent worker and supervisor. She does this outstanding job in the face of daunting challenges.

Ms. Barton, who is now 27, was born with cerebral palsy, diabetes, and a learning disability, as well as a disorder that causes progressive vision impairment. Diabetes caused her to have to undergo a kidney and pancreas transplant. She persevered through these obstacles to finish her schooling and enter the workplace. Then, five years ago, she was a passenger in an auto accident with a drunk driver. The accident left her paralyzed, without the ability to walk and with only limited use of her hands.

Many people would have considered these hurdles to be insurmountable—but not Ms. Barton. She was determined to remain a successful professional. She took each issue in stride, adjusting her lifestyle and habits. She now rises around 5:00 am to be ready for work on time. Her employer, ADT, has provided modest accommodations at work, including a special desk to fit her wheelchair and a large computer screen. Her service dog, Sheba, assists her with various tasks. And she continues to win accolades for her work at ADT.

Based on her extraordinary accomplishments, Ms. Barton was selected from among thousands of individuals nationwide to be Goodwill Industries International's 2002 Grad-

uate of the Year. She met President Bush on Monday and took the opportunity to impress upon him the importance of helping persons with disabilities be active, contributing members of the workforce.

I am deeply proud to represent Paula Barton: a successful employee, a delightful individual, and a true inspiration to us all. She serves as a shining example of everything that can be accomplished with an indomitable will to succeed.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO NOLBERT CHAVEZ

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Nolbert Chavez and thank him for his contributions in the Colorado General Assembly. His hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated, and I am honored to pay tribute to him today in front of this body of Congress. He will long be remembered as an effective State Representative, and will continue to be known as a leader in the community. As he moves on in his career, let it be known that I, along with people of Colorado, am grateful for all that he has done for the Colorado General Assembly.

During his four terms in the Colorado State House of Representatives, Nolbert has served on a number of committees, including his two current committees, Criminal Justice and House Services. In addition, he is active in the North Denver Democratic Party, was appointed twice to the Governors Developmental Disabilities Planning Council.

Not only has Nolbert served the community effectively as a member of the Colorado General Assembly, he has also done his part as an active humanitarian. He is on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Hispanic Media Association, and is the past director of the Denver Community Development Corporation and El Dorado Development Corporation. He is a Public Information Officer with Denver Options, and is also a real estate broker. Perhaps most importantly, Nolbert is married to his wife Judy, and the two have a daughter, Hope Christina.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Nolbert Chavez has served his state well by providing significant service during his distinguished tenure in the Colorado General Assembly. I am honored to be able to bring his hard work and dedication to the attention of this body of Congress. It is my privilege to be able to express to him, and to this country, my gratitude for all that he has done for our wonderful state, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

#### NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AUSTIN'S SMALL TECHNOLOGY BUSINESSES

**HON. LAMAR S. SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Small Business Week.

It is a time to celebrate the contributions that America's small businesses make to our economy. Small business is the engine that drives this nation, producing 75 percent of new jobs, accounting for almost 98 percent of all employers and 53 percent of the private work force. It is our small businesses that will continue to lead us to economic recovery. In particular, small tech businesses are on the front lines of the digital revolution. They have led the way in advances from broadband deployment to software development.

My State of Texas ranks second nationally in high tech workers, employing more than 411,000 with an annual payroll of about \$25 billion. Many of those employees are working for small businesses. And my new congressional district contains thousands of small, innovative high tech centered businesses.

One such company is Advent Networks in Austin. Advent was founded in 1999 and has already 87 employees. Advent Networks has created a new technology for cable operators. They are able to deliver Internet connections to small businesses over existing cable networks. This will allow cable operators the ability to offer fiber-optic speeds to small businesses.

With this new technology, affordable broadband access to small businesses will be delivered 1,000 times faster than with dial-up connections. Advent is just one of the thousands of small technology businesses around the country connecting rural America, developing next generation hardware and software, and keeping America in the forefront of technological advances.

#### RECOGNIZING GRAIG B. TURSON ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize my constituent, Graig B. Turson of Plymouth, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Graig will soon graduate from Plymouth High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a 4.0 grade point average and is ranked first in his graduating class. He is an accomplished athlete, earning varsity letters in basketball, baseball and cross country. And, he has demonstrated his leadership ability, serving as captain of the basketball and baseball teams, and as President of the senior class.

Graig Turson can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Graig is accepting a unique challenge.

The Academy is the pinnacle of leadership development for the United States Air Force. As a member of the Cadet Air Wing, he will face a most demanding academic curriculum and physical regimen. He will live, study and prepare in an environment where strong leadership thrives, individual achievement is expected, and personal integrity is demanded.

Mr. Speaker, General John W. Vessey, Jr. once wrote, "The Nation's ability to remain

free and at peace depends in no small measure on whether we will continue to inspire our youth to serve."

I am confident that Graig Turson has the character and ability to excel at the U.S. Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his very important service to our nation.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO PAT PASCOE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to recognize the work of Pat Pascoe, a woman whose dedication and commitment to her fellow citizens deserves the attention of this body of Congress and this nation. After serving as a senator in the Colorado State Senate for three terms Pat is retiring from the Colorado General Assembly. It is with a great deal of respect that I take this opportunity to honor her accomplishments.

Born in Wisconsin, Pat came to Colorado in order to pursue her undergraduate degree, and has remained ever since. She began her career as a writer specializing in politics and education, and then went on to become a professor at Metropolitan State College and the University of Denver. Elected to the Senate in 1989, 1994, and 1998, Pat has dedicated countless hours to her fellow citizens in Colorado. As a State Senator, Pat has served on numerous committees, including her current posts as chair of the Public Policy and Planning Committee and Vice-Chair of the Education Committee, as well as Appropriations and Transportation. Pat has a passion for her work, taking on a variety of issues, including family, education and the environment.

Pat is a woman who recognizes the importance of humanitarian service, as well. She is a Member of the Consortium of Community Arts Councils, and a board member on the Colorado Endowment for Humanities, as well as Opera Colorado. She is a member of the Samaritan House, the Capital Hill Club, the Lions Club and many neighborhood associations. She is also a devoted wife and mother of three who enjoys music and singing.

Mr. Speaker, during her tenure in the Colorado General Assembly, Pat has compiled a long list of accomplishments, and they have not gone unnoticed. She has received numerous prestigious awards including the Donor Awareness Award, Children's Champion Award, and the Religious Freedom Award. Through her hard work and commitment she has also earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues. Pat is truly a valued member of our Colorado community, both as a state senator and as a citizen, and her hard work and dedication certainly deserve the attention of this body of Congress. Thank you, Pat, for all that you have done for your community, your state and your country.

#### RECOGNIZING FIVE OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS INDUCTED INTO NA- TIONAL TEACHERS HALL OF FAME

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize five outstanding educators who today were announced as inductees into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas. This is the 11th year of inducting members into the Hall of Fame, whose mission is to honor exceptional teachers and promote excellence in teaching. I congratulate today's honorees.

These inductees are being honored for their devotion to our nation's children and for their many contributions to their communities. Students in inductee Dana K. Kelly's Southwest Elementary in Lakeland Florida, adopted 50 children school for the deaf, and send them monthly care packages from mittens to candies. Janice Gould, an art teacher at Lawrence Hall Youth Services in Chicago, Illinois, helped her students create a Permanent Children's Art Collection for the Illinois State Board of Education. This project demonstrates what special-needs children can create when given the proper environment to flourish. Fellow inductee Jane Bray Nelson, a physics teacher at University High School in Orlando, Florida, is distinguished not only by her many awards, but by her students' admiration.

I am especially proud to announce that two of this year's inductees hail from my home state of Kansas. E. May (Pat) Lindquist is a tutor and substitute teacher in Brookville. Ms. Lindquist has dedicated 54 years of her life to teaching, having first taught in a one room school house in 1931. Liza Zahn Crooks is a fourth grade teacher at Black Bob Elementary School in Olathe, Kansas. Ms. Crooks is known for developing innovative teaching tools, including the Good Bears of the World program in which students give a teddy bear to people going through difficult times, particularly children and senior citizens. I commend each of these individuals for their commitment to excellence in education.

Teachers are so important. When you ask people who has made a difference in their lives, the answer you are likely to hear is "my teacher." My own interest in the world outside my Kansas hometown was sparked by my teachers, who in grade school and high school taught me the love of books, biography, politics and history.

Every day, in schools all across America, teachers provide similar guidance to the next generation of students—teachers who, for inadequate pay, educate not only with facts and figures, but also instill a love for learning and a sense that there is a world out there beyond the city limits of our hometowns. No matter how lofty the goals, no matter how difficult the road, teachers have been there to show us that, yes, our dreams are possible, and that, yes, we can succeed.

So on National Teacher Day, I salute these five educators for their dedication to the youth of America. May you always find satisfaction in knowing that you have made a tremendous difference in the lives of your students. Thank you.

# EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

SPEECH OF

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2002*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, this legislation could not have come at a worse time in the ongoing Middle East crisis. Just when we have seen some positive signs that the two sides may return to negotiations toward a peaceful settlement, Congress has jumped into the fray on one side of the conflict. I do not believe that this body wishes to de-rail the slight progress that seems to have come from the Administration's more even-handed approach over the past several days. So why is it that we are here today ready to pass legislation that clearly and openly favors one side in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

There are many troubling aspects to this legislation. The legislation says that "the number of Israelis killed during that time [since September 2000] by suicide terrorist attacks alone, on a basis proportional to the United States population, is approximately 9,000, three times the number killed in the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington on September 11, 2001." This kind of numbers game with the innocent dead strikes me as terribly disrespectful and completely unhelpful.

It is, when speaking of the dead, the one-sidedness of this bill that is so unfortunate. How is it that the side that loses seven people to every one on the other side is portrayed as the sole aggressor and condemned as terrorist? This is only made worse by the fact that Palestinian deaths are seen in the Arab world as being American-inspired, as it is our weapons that are being used against them. This bill just reinforces negative perceptions of the United States in that part of the world. What might be the consequences of this? I think we need to stop and think about that for a while. We in this body have a Constitutional responsibility to protect the national security of the United States. This one-sided intervention in a far-off war has the potential to do great harm to our national security.

Perhaps this is why the Administration views this legislation as "not a very helpful approach" to the situation in the Middle East. In my view, it is bad enough that we are intervening at all in this conflict, but this legislation strips any lingering notion that the United States intends to be an honest broker. It states clearly that the leadership of one side—the Palestinians—is bad and supports terrorism just at a time when this Administration negotiates with both sides in an attempt to bring peace to the region. Talk about undermining the difficult efforts of the president and the State Department. What incentive does Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat or his organization have to return to the negotiating table if we as "honest broker" make it clear that in Congress's eyes, the Palestinians are illegitimate terrorists? Must we become so involved in this far-off conflict that we are forced to choose between Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon? The United States Congress should not, Constitutionally, be in the business of choosing who gets to lead which foreign people.

Many people of various religious backgrounds seem determined to portray what is happening in the Middle East as some kind of historic/religious struggle, where one side is pre-ordained to triumph and destroy the other. Even some in this body have embraced this notion. Surely the religious component that some interject into the conflict rouses emotions and adds fuel to the fire. But this is dangerous thinking. Far from a great holy war, the Middle East conflict is largely about what most wars are about: a struggle for land and resources in a part of the world where both are scarce. We must think and act rationally, with this fact clearly in mind.

Just as with our interventionism in other similar struggles around the world, our meddling in the Middle East has unforeseen consequences. Our favoritism of one side has led to the hatred of America and Americans by the other side. We are placing our country in harm's way with this approach. It is time to step back and look at our policy in the Middle East. After 24 years of the "peace process" and some 300 million of our dollars, we are no closer to peace than when President Carter concluded the Camp David talks.

Mr. Speaker, any other policy that had so utterly failed over such a long period of time would likely come under close scrutiny here. Why is it that when it comes to interventionism in the Middle East conflict we continue down this unproductive and very expensive road?

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

SPEECH OF

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2002*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to cast a vote on H. Res. 404, rollcall vote No. 126, "Expressing Solidarity with Israel against the fight against terrorism." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on the measure.

I am hopeful that President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell will continue their push to bring an end to the violence and renew a viable diplomatic process between the two sides. I am also extremely glad to see that the administration is planning a Mideast Peace Conference among the regional leaders to discuss the various plans for peace that have been put forward. I am hopeful that the Arab Nations accept this offer, and are ready to sit down at the table to seriously discuss a cessation to the violence.

As a strong proponent of continued U.S. support and friendship to Israel, I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 1795, the Middle East Peace Commitment Act. In all my years in Washington, I have been a strong supporter of Israel, and was fortunate to travel to Israel during my first year in office with members of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. I remember this trip with pleasure, and was more than impressed with the free and democratic society that the citizens of Israel have built in their short, fifty four year history.

However, for the United States to continue its sponsorship of the Middle East peace proc-

ess, we need a commitment from Yasser Arafat to refrain from terrorism. The basis for U.S. support for peace, including the acceptance of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Palestinian Authority (PA) as diplomatic partners for peace, requires Yasser Arafat's PA to renounce in words and actions, all forms of violence to achieve their national aspirations. Chairman Arafat needs to rein in radical elements in the territories, as it is completely impossible for the Israelis to negotiate with groups that support or commit acts of random terror.

On the other hand, I strongly believe that Israel must make concessions as well to obtain a lasting peace. For instance, Israel needs to continue negotiating with the Palestinian Authority, as well as the surrounding Arab states, if necessary. The United States, as a broker and overseer of the peace process, must encourage communication between the Israelis with the Palestinians, as well as promote a cessation of military incursions in the territories. These incursions I believe, are not productive for the peace process, and will in the end only produce more violence and radicalism among the already uncontrollable Palestinian factions.

Again, I am hopeful that both sides are able to reach an agreement in the very near future to put an end to this seemingly endless cycle of violence, and that the United States will continue to support negotiations and compromise between the two sides.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARY ELLEN EPPS

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mary Ellen Epps and thank her for her extraordinary contributions in the Colorado General Assembly. Her dedication to both her job and the people of Colorado deserves the recognition of this body of Congress and this nation. She will be remembered as a State Senator and Representative with the utmost dedication to her constituents and as she moves on in her career, I would like to thank her for her hard work in the Colorado General Assembly.

Mary Ellen was elected to the Colorado State Senate in 1998 after being elected to the Colorado State House of Representatives in 1986, and has served on a number of committees during her tenure. She served as chairwoman of HEWI, and the Medically Indigent Committees, and has been a member of the Judiciary, Transportation, Legislative Legal Services, Adult Criminal Justice, Juvenile Offenders, House Services and Health Care Committees, among others. As an elected official, Mary Ellen has long been an advocate of criminal justice and healthcare. She has effectively implemented a number of programs and legislation to help aid the citizens of Colorado in these areas, including mandatory immunizations for children and automobile insurance penalties for the uninsured.

Not only has Mary Ellen served the community effectively as a member of the Colorado General Assembly, she has also done her part as an active humanitarian. She is a charter

member of the Security Lioness Club, a lifetime VFW member, and a member of the School District #3 Advisory Board long-range task force. She is also an active member of the Optimists Club and has served on the El Paso County Planning Commission. In addition to her humanitarian endeavors, Mary Ellen is the proud mother of three daughters, Marsha Epps, Kelly Hromas and Heather Segura.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Mary Ellen Epps is a woman of dedication and commitment to her state and its citizens. I am honored to be able to bring her hard work and dedication to the attention of this body of Congress, and to this nation. Thank you, Mary Ellen, for all of your hard work, and I wish you all the best in the future.

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HONORING THE GENESEE VALLEY  
ROTARY CLUB

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Genesee Valley Rotary Club on celebrating its 25th anniversary. The Rotary Club will celebrate its anniversary with a special event on May 14.

The Genesee Valley Rotary Club began as a provisional club in March of 1977, through the support of Jack Hamady, Ray Kelley and Jerry Wittemore. The Genesee Valley Rotary Club grew so rapidly through community support that by May of 1977 the Rotary was given a charter at the district conference that was held in Port Huron. Over the past 25 years the Rotary Club has conducted one major fundraiser a year giving the proceeds to local or international projects that they believe give back to the community. In addition to this the members conduct various community projects throughout the year. Many of them work for the Salvation Army Christmas bell ringing campaign, others answer phones for telethons, and some work during the Big Brothers/Big Sisters bowling challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Genesee Valley Rotary Club on celebrating its 25th anniversary. As a Rotary Club scholarship beneficiary I can attest to the unwavering support they give to the community. I applaud their involvement in the Flint area for the past quarter century.

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HONORING THE DEDICATION OF  
THE ALVIRDA HYMAN LEARNING  
CENTER IN FREMONT, CA

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the grand opening of the Alvirda Hyman Learning Center, an innovative new alternative learning facility donated by the Fremont Bank to the Fremont Unified School District in honor of Alvirda Hyman's dedication to continuing education.

Alvirda Hyman is a living testimony to the power of lifelong learning and a role model for her commitment to community service. Throughout her adult life, Mrs. Hyman has been a strong supporter of education for students from preschool through adulthood.

It was her support of her husband, Morris, in continuing his education that sewed the seeds of a career change that led to the founding of Fremont Bank in the early 1960s. Now one of the most successful family-owned businesses in the Bay Area, the Fremont Bank's 21 branches are a tribute to continuing education's ability to transform individual lives and improve communities.

Likewise, the Alvirda Hyman Learning Center, which represents one of the most generous corporate contributions in the history of the Fremont Unified School District, is the ideal tribute to Mrs. Hyman's dedication to education. When Fremont Bank consolidated its support facilities, a 12,000 square-foot modular building became vacated and available for donation. The bank donated the building to the school district for use as instructional space.

The new facility allows the Fremont Unified School District to provide tremendously improved space for several alternative education programs. It provides the Circle of Independent Learning Charter School a permanent home; it provides the Adult School Parent Education Program space designed specifically for its unique needs; and it gives the State Pre-School Program a permanent classroom within the district.

As part of a full community effort, the building was moved in 20 sections to the Mowry Adult School site. Re-construction began in August 2001, and has resulted in a beautiful new facility designed especially to serve the individual needs of the alternative learning programs housed there. The commercial structure was re-designed into an attractive and functional learning environment, complete with a playground and activity areas. The 20 separate modular units were recombined into a structurally coherent and aesthetically stunning building.

I am honored to congratulate Alvirda Hyman for her remarkable belief in the power and importance of lifelong learning. Her dedication to improving education has assured every citizen of Fremont the opportunity for a bright future, filled with ongoing education.

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H.R. 4231—SMALL BUSINESS  
ADVOCACY IMPROVEMENT ACT

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in strong support of H.R. 4231, the Small Business Advocacy Improvement Act. Created in 1976 by Congress, the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Advocacy's primary mission is to protect, strengthen and effectively represent small businesses within the Federal government's legislative and rule-making process. The Office of Advocacy works to reduce the burdens that Federal government policies impose on small business and encourage policies that support the development and growth of American small business.

However, the Office of Advocacy is forced each year to negotiate with OMB and the Administration on the provisions in its budget. In order for the Office of Advocacy to strengthen its voice and credibility for small businesses, it must be independent of any undue interference or influence that might hinder its ability to speak out objectively on behalf of small businesses.

To that end, H.R. 4231 requires that Advocacy's budget request be included in the President's budget submission to Congress each fiscal year without being changed. This will give the Office of Advocacy greatly increased fiscal independence from the Administration and will allow Advocacy to stay true to its core mission of providing support to small businesses and entrepreneurs.

In addition, continuation of service for the SBA Chief Counsel for Advocacy, unlimited authorization for the Office of Advocacy, and replacing the "minority enterprises" terminology to include women owned businesses and veteran businesses in the primary functions of the Office of Advocacy are also important provisions included in H.R. 4231.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this important legislation and help improve the support provided to our nation's small businesses by the SBA's Office of Advocacy. Vote "yes" on H.R. 4231.

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THE SOCIAL SECURITY WIDOW'S  
BENEFIT GUARANTEE ACT OF 2002

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I am offering a bill to make long overdue improvements in Social Security benefits. My bill would provide higher benefits for an estimated 5 million widows and other elderly beneficiaries. At the same time, it maintains fiscal responsibility by assuring that the bill does not affect the financial solvency of the Social Security system.

Elderly non-married women, including widows, rely heavily on Social Security benefits. Three out of four depend on it for at least half of their total income. And four in 10 depend on it for 90 percent or more of their income.

At the same time, widows are among the poorest of all Social Security beneficiaries. Over the last 30 years, poverty rates among the elderly have fallen from 29 percent in 1966 to 8.5 percent in 2000. But among widows, the poverty rate remains high—at 15 percent in 2000. The incomes of elderly women are very modest. The median income for non-married elderly women, including widows, was about \$12,000 a year in 2000.

The time to address this situation is now. Republicans want to spend trillions of dollars to privatize Social Security, and they want to wait until after the election to do it. Democrats are proposing to invest less than one-twentieth of that amount to improve benefits for the neediest beneficiaries, and we want to do it now, without delay. Democrats want to improve Social Security and help its neediest beneficiaries, rather than destroy it by risky privatization schemes that require trillions of new dollars and deep benefit cuts.

BILL SUMMARY

The bill would create a new "widow's guarantee" for Social Security beneficiaries. Widows and widowers would be guaranteed a

benefit equal to 75% of the combined benefits the couple had been receiving prior to the death of one spouse.

The widow's guarantee would provide higher benefits than widows receive under current law—which only provides benefits equal to what the husband had been receiving prior to his death. Under current law, widows are effectively limited to only 50–67 percent of what the couple had been receiving. Yet under federal guidelines, a one-person household is estimated to need 80 percent of the income of a two-person household. This bill would reduce the drop in Social Security income that would otherwise occur upon the death of a spouse.

For example, the average retired worker on the rolls today receives a benefit of \$874 per month. If that worker has a spouse who is entitled to Social Security spousal benefits, their combined benefit is \$1311. Under current law, the widow would receive \$874 after her husband dies. Under the 75% widow's guarantee, the widow would get a benefit of \$983 a month—an increase of \$109 a month, or 12 percent more than she would receive under current law.

To assure that the increased benefits are concentrated on those with the greatest need, the increase would be subject to a dollar cap of \$1000 a month, which would be indexed in 2003 and later years.

The benefit increase is estimated to help 5 million widows and widowers, one million of whom are currently living in poverty.

This bill also includes benefit improvements to help certain groups of disabled widows, elderly widows whose husbands died shortly after retirement, and divorced spouses. Over 120,000 beneficiaries would see increases as a result of this section of the bill.

Finally, this is fully financed through general revenue transfers to Social Security. This makes the Trust Funds whole for the cost of these vital benefit improvements.

This legislation promotes the needs of our poorest and most vulnerable elderly. It improves and strengthens Social Security's guaranteed, dependable monthly income. It assures that widows and widowers will have at least a minimally decent standard of living in old-age. I am pleased to introduce the Social Security Widow's Benefit Guarantee Act.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANA ARAUJO MACE

#### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Frana Araujo Mace and thank her for her extraordinary contributions in the Colorado General Assembly. Her dedication to both her job and the people of Colorado deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and, indeed, this nation. She will be remembered as a State Representative with the utmost dedication to her constituents, and as she moves on in her career, I would like to thank her for all of her hard work in the Colorado Legislature.

Frana was appointed to the Colorado State House of Representatives in 1995 to fill a vacancy, and was subsequently elected in 1996,

1998 and 2000. During her tenure in the State House, she served as the House Minority Whip and was a member of the House Services, Local Government, Transportation, and Energy committees. She was the mayoral appointee to the Denver Board of Adjustment and Zoning Appeals from 1976 through 1986, was the Governor's appointee to the Commission on Aging, and served as the party finance chair from District 4A.

Not only has Frana served the community effectively as a member of the Colorado General Assembly, she has also done her part as an active humanitarian. She served as the President and Chairman of the Northside Community Center, and on the Servicios de la Raza cooperative endeavor. For her hard work and dedication, Frana was named the Hispanic Woman of the Year/Political Division in 1995. In addition to her community endeavors, Frana is married to Gilbert Mace, and is the proud mother of five children.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that Frana's colleagues and constituents will sorely miss the leadership and compassion that she consistently gave to the State of Colorado, and I thank her for all that she has done for the state. I am honored to bring her accomplishments to the attention of this body of Congress, and wish her all the best in the future. Her hard work and dedication truly embodies the spirit of the State, and it is with a great deal of pride that I thank her for her many years of public service.

#### ON THE DEATH OF MSGR. GEORGE HIGGINS

#### HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to a man who devoted his life to social justice.

Today we say goodbye to Monsignor George G. Higgins, who headed the Social Action Department of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops for 35 years. Msgr. Higgins died May 1, and was buried today in his home town of LaGrange, Illinois. He was 86 years old.

Msgr. Higgins fought for the rights of workers, whether they were auto workers in Detroit, farm workers in California or steelworkers on the Iron Range of Minnesota. He wrote nearly 3,000 columns on social issues for Catholic newspapers across the country from 1945 until September 2001, when he could no longer continue because of failing eyesight.

Msgr. Higgins held a doctorate in economics and political science from Catholic University of America. He was awarded the University of Notre Dame's highest honor, the Laetare Medal, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Last year he was honored as one of the great pioneers in promoting dialogue between Catholics and Jews by the International Catholic-Jewish Liaison Committee.

Msgr. Higgins made a lasting imprint on the Church's approach to social policy in America: feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, clothing the poor.

As columnist E.J. Dionne wrote in today's Washington Post, "It is one of the highest callings of spiritual leaders to force those who

live happy and comfortable lives to consider their obligations to those heavily burdened by injustice and deprivation." Msgr. Higgins answered that calling.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when a dark cloud of scandal hangs over the Catholic Church, it is important to note that the priesthood is full of good men doing God's work. Msgr. Higgins was such a priest. All of us who believe in the fair treatment of working men and women, compassion for the poorest among us, and brotherhood with those of other faiths, will miss him deeply.

Mr. Speaker, I ask to submit the full text of E.J. Dionne's column for the RECORD.

[Washingtonpost.com, May 7, 2002]

THE GREAT MONSIGNOR

(By E. J. Dionne, Jr.)

There is no such thing as a timely death. But just when you thought all the stories on American priests were destined to be about evil committed and covered up, one of the truly great priests was called to his eternal reward.

Monsignor George G. Higgins was the sort of Catholic clergyman regularly cast as a hero in movies of the 1940s and '50s. He was an uncompromising pro-labor priest who walked picket lines, fought anti-Semitism, supported civil rights and wrote and wrote and wrote in the hope that some of his arguments about social justice might penetrate somewhere.

He got attached to causes before they became fashionable, and stuck with them after the fashionable people moved on. Cesar Chavez once said that no one had done more for American farm workers than Monsignor Higgins. In the 1980s, he traveled regularly to Poland in support of Solidarity's struggle against communism and became an important link between American union leaders and their Polish brethren.

As it happens, even the day of Monsignor Higgins' death, at the age of 86, was appropriate. He passed from this world on May 1, the day that many countries set aside to honor labor and that the Catholic Church designates as the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

If Higgins had been there when that famous carpenter was looking for a place to spend the night with his pregnant wife, the monsignor would certainly have taken the family in. He would also have handed Joseph a union card, told him he deserved better pay and benefits, and insisted that no working person should ever have to beg for shelter.

Yes, Higgins sounds so old-fashioned—and in every good sense he was—that you might wonder about his relevance to our moment. Let us count the ways.

One of the most astonishing and disturbing aspects of the Catholic Church's current scandal is the profound disjunction—that's a charitable word—between what the church preaches about sexuality and compassion toward the young and how its leaders reacted to the flagrant violation of these norms by priests.

Higgins, who spent decades as the Catholic Church's point man on labor and social justice issues, hated the idea of preachers' exhorting people to do one thing and then doing the opposite. And so he made himself into a true pain for any administrator of any Catholic institution who resisted the demands of workers for fair pay and union representation.

"These men and women mop the floors of Catholic schools, work in Catholic hospital kitchens and perform other sometimes menial tasks in various institutions," he once wrote. "They have not volunteered to serve the church for less than proportionate compensation."

"The church has a long history of speaking out on justice and peace issues," he said. "Yet only in more recent times has the church made it clear that these teachings apply as well to the workings of its own institutions."

Where some religious leaders complain that they get caught up in scandal because they are unfairly held to higher standards, Higgins believed that higher standards were exactly the calling of those who claim the authority to tell others what to do.

It bothered Higgins to the end of his life that the cause of trade unionism had become so unfashionable, especially among well-educated and well-paid elites. For 56 years, he wrote a column for the Catholic press, and he returned to union issues so often that he once felt obligated to headline one of his offerings: "Why There's So Much Ado About Labor in My Column."

His answer was simple: "I am convinced that we are not likely to have a fully free or democratic society over the long haul without a strong and effective labor movement."

To those who saw collective bargaining as outdated in a new economy involving choice, mobility and entrepreneurship, Higgins would thunder back about the rights of those for whom such a glittering world was still, at best, a distant possibility: hospital workers, farm workers, fast-food workers and others who need higher wages to help their children reach their dreams. He could not abide well-paid intellectuals who regularly derided unions as dinosaurs, and he told them so, over and over.

It is one of the highest callings of spiritual leaders to force those who live happy and comfortable lives to consider their obligations to those heavily burdened by injustice and deprivation. It is a great loss when such prophetic voices are stilled by scandal and the cynicism it breeds. Fortunately, that never happened to Higgins. He never had to shut up about injustice and, God bless him, he never did.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO BILL WEBSTER

### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Bill Webster and thank him for his contributions in the Colorado General Assembly. His hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated, and I am honored to pay tribute to him today in front of this body of Congress. He will long be remembered as an effective State Representative, and will continue to be known as a leader in the community. As he moves on in his career, let it be known that I, along with people of Colorado, am grateful for all that he has done for the Colorado General Assembly.

During his two terms in the Colorado State House of Representatives, Bill has served on a number of committees, including his two current committees, Agriculture, Livestock & Natural Resources, where he serves as vice-chairman, and Local Government. In addition, Bill served for eight years as the Weld County Commissioner, and worked at the Webster Land & Cattle Company.

Not only has Bill served the community effectively as a member of the Colorado General Assembly, he has also done his part as an active humanitarian. He is the past presi-

dent of the Greeley Chamber of Commerce, Greeley Rotary Club and the Boys and Girls Club of Greeley. He is also a past director of Safeway Stores, Inc., Colorado Water Congress and the National Cattlemen's Association, and serves on the Colorado Agriculture Commission and the Greeley Planning Commission. Perhaps most importantly, Bill is married to his wife Sylvia, and they have three children.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Bill Webster has served his state well by providing significant service during his distinguished tenure in the Colorado General Assembly. I am honored to be able to bring his hard work and dedication to the attention of this body of Congress. It is my privilege to be able to express to him, and to this country, my gratitude for all that he has done for our wonderful state, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

#### NOTIFYING TAXPAYERS REGARDING THEIR POSSIBLE ELIGIBILITY FOR EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

### HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 4632 to help more low income workers seek tax rebates under the Earned Income Tax Credit program.

Under the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) provisions, a person at least 25 years old, earning \$1 up to \$10,709 may qualify for a refundable tax credit of \$1 to \$364 depending on income earned.

A single parent, at least 25 years old, with one child, earning \$1 to \$28,280 may receive a refundable tax credit of \$3 to \$2,428 depending on income earned.

A single parent, at least 25 years old, with two children, earning \$1 to \$32,120 may receive a refundable tax credit of \$2 to \$4,008 depending on income earned.

In the year 2000, about 19 million low income families received Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) refunds. The total refunds paid out in 2000 was \$30 billion.

28% of the families who received EITC had incomes below \$10,000. The refund for a single parent with two children earning \$10,000 was \$4,008.

In 1999 over 25% of the low income taxpayers who were eligible did not file for EITC.

With a million single parents being forced off welfare to work, it is of great concern that many, if not most, are not aware of the refund that they could apply for. The vast majority of the welfare mothers who are forced to work earn less than \$8,000 per year. The Administration and other defenders of the welfare to work program argue that in addition to the meager earnings, these poor families receive \$4,000 under EITC. The tragedy is that most don't.

H.R. 4632 is offered to make sure that information is given to these poor families informing them that this refund is due them.

If welfare to work is justified on the basis that low wages can be buffered by \$4,000 in EITC refunds, then we need to make sure that these monies are received.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM G. SWENSON

### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute today to a man who has embodied the spirit of the State of Colorado through his life-long dedication to serving his state. A member of the Colorado General Assembly, the hard work and dedication of William Swenson, known as Bill, is a testament to the Western pride and character of my state and its citizens. Bill is now leaving the Colorado State House of Representatives after selflessly serving since 1994, and I can think of no better way to celebrate Bill's retirement than to honor his many achievements before this body of Congress and this nation.

A resident of Longmont, Colorado, Bill has served in various local government positions before his election to the House, notably as a City Councilman and Mayor of Longmont. Elected to the Colorado State House of Representatives in 1994, he has served several committees, recently as a member of the Local Government committee and Chairman of the Transportation and Energy committee. During this time, he has been a valuable proponent for local government, tax relief, and water and natural resources conservation.

Bill is regarded as a loving husband and devoted father of four as well as a key member of the community. He is currently a member of Rotary International, the First Lutheran Churchmen and serves as the church treasurer. His work ethic is reflected in his membership in the IBM Quarter Century Club, an honorarium for his thirty-four years of service to the company.

Mr. Speaker, Bill has been a valued member of our Colorado community, both as an elected official and as a citizen. While I am sure he will be missed in the Colorado State House of Representatives, I know that he will undoubtedly succeed in his future endeavors, and will continue to serve his fellow Coloradans. Thank you Bill, for all of your hard work and efforts.

#### A WELL DESERVED TRIBUTE TO HEITOR SOUSA

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, last month, in Fall River, Massachusetts, a very impressive tribute was paid to Heitor Sousa, one of the leaders in the Portuguese American community. Heitor Sousa came to the U.S. in 1981 from the Azores, and he is an example of the way in which immigration enriches our country economically, culturally, and socially. I have been privileged to benefit from Heitor Sousa's friendship, advice, and wisdom for 20 years, during the time I have represented parts of Southeastern Massachusetts in this body. I want to add my own personal gratitude to him for the extraordinary service he has performed both for the people of Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island and for the residents of Portugal in general and the Azores in

particular. The tribute paid to him was extremely well deserved.

[From *Comunidade—Community*, April 10, 2002]  
MUSIC

FALL RIVER.—Flanked by good friends and hundreds of admirers, Heitor Sousa, the founder of the Great Feast of the Holy ghost of New England, was honored yesterday in a ceremony that was described as “a happy and loving tribute.”

Guests traveled from as far away as Toronto and the Azores to attend the ceremony hosted by the Our Lady of Light Band.

Sousa, 63, immigrated to the United States in 1981 to establish the Banco Comercial dos Acores branch on Pleasant Street and within five years founded the annual Portuguese Battle of the Bands and the Great Feast. He has also been a strong advocate for the continuation of the bands and an increase in performances.

“Heitor Sousa is a ‘grand homem’ (a great man),” said Fall River Diocese Bishop Sean P. O’Malley as he opened the ceremony.

Rhode Island General Treasurer Paul Tavares told the large jam-packed crowd that he met Sousa in 1984.

“We formed a great friendship,” Tavares said. “I have a great deal of respect for this man, who is dedicated to his community, his homeland, this new land and his Azorean culture.”

Fall River State Representative Robert Correia told the crowd that Sousa’s life tale has been entered into the state’s official archives, “where it will be forever.” He added that Sousa helped him understand his culture better and even took him to the homeland to foster a better connection.

Turning to the crowd, Correia said that Sousa is very much like the Braga and Mount Hope bridges that many of the Rhode Islanders took to attend the hall.

“Heitor is a bridge from the Azores to Fall River,” said Correia. “He traveled the bumpy road from the Azores to here and took me and a few of us on the bumpy road from here to the Azores. He is not a man of words but a man of action.”

Rev. Luis Cardoso, formerly of Espirito Santo Church and now of Sao Miguel Church of Fall River, said it will never be known how many people Sousa has helped in his life.

“He has done so much for the community, but all he did was driven by his faith,” he said.

Mayor Edward M. Lambert, Jr. told the crowd that he was befriended by Sousa many years ago and despite a language barrier the two have worked well together.

“That’s because he has always spoken the language of the heart,” said Lambert. He added that if one could equate one’s spirit with song, then “the life of Heitor Sousa has been a beautiful concert.”

He praised the work Sousa has done in founding the feast, adding “it is a great source of pride for everyone in Fall River. No

other event brings so many people—so many eyes from all over the world to this great city. For this, you will always be remembered. Heitor Sousa you are a treasure in this community, which we value tremendously.”

The master of ceremonies for the event, Manuel F. Estrela, broke up the praise with his own humor. Saying that he could not stand by and see only good things said about his old friend, he joked that it was time to talk about Sousa’s shortcomings.

“He is a great ‘Sportinguista,’” he said to the roar of the crowd. A sportinguista is a fan of the Portugal’s Sporting Soccer team.

Sousa was also praised by two of the Azores top journalists. Jorge Nascimento Cabral, a retired publisher of *Correio dos Acores*, and Osvaldo Cabral of RTP-Azores.

Both men said they could not have missed the event.

“His roots are deeply planted on both sides of the Atlantic,” said Cabral of RTP. “I see in him the greatest recognition of faith, of fatherhood, of grand fatherhood, husbandry and community service.”

Cabral said that back in his village of Rabo de Peixe the youth all know of Sousa’s work.

“He is a great example for us who are older and for the younger generation,” he said.

Jorge Cabral, the featured speaker, talked about how Sousa rose from his small village to be a mountain of a man on two sides of the ocean.

“It is not easy for someone to come from an island, from Rabo de Peixe, and leave to go to a country where they speak a different language and lead a cultural revival,” he said. “But he has given a new meaning to the word ‘saudade.’ He has always been in the service of the people. And he has carried with him the greatest symbol of the Azores—people’s faith. This is a very dynamic man who has served his community, fostered many organizations, but never profited monetarily just through the peace of his conscious.”

On several occasions Sousa became choked up. Tears swelled in his eyes during a surprise performance by the Our lady of Light Band, which played a song Sousa once led while he was the director of the Banda Lira do Norte in Rabo de Peixe—“marcha de Cigano.”

After the speeches, Sousa was presented with a portrait by the Banda da Luz, which they said would hang in their club forever. He was also given a check for \$1,849, the profits from the banquet, but in typical Sousa fashion he donated it back, saying that he wanted it to be designated for a fund to be given to the top student of each of the 15 Portuguese bands of New England. Minutes later Carlos Andrade of Sharon pledged to give \$5,000 to bolster the very fund.

In a touching closing ceremony, Sousa was presented plaques by all of the bands that he has championed over the years. He also thanked those gathered, including Estrela, the Cabrals, all of the bands and their leadership, as well as Luis Silva and Antonio Carvalho of the Light Band.

Sousa also took the time to thank his wife, “who has been suffering me for 40 years,” he said.

He ended his speech with a challenge to the leaders of the community and in the Azores, saying that they must do more to support the bands. He added that the Azores should host an annual ban performance, which incorporates bands from the United States and the islands.

“Our bands are often forgotten by our leaders,” he added.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO GLENN E. SCOTT

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the achievements of a member of the Colorado General Assembly, and thank him for all that he has done for the state. After two terms in the Colorado State House of Representatives, Glenn E. Scott is leaving the House in order to pursue other opportunities, and I can think of no better way to thank Glenn for his many years of service, than to bring his many accomplishments to light in front of this body of Congress.

A resident of Westminster, Colorado, Glenn received his Bachelors and Masters Degree in economics from the University of Colorado. An Investment Portfolio Manager for LBC Investment Advisors, he was first appointed to the House in 1999, then elected in 2000, and has since served on several committees working to improve the lives of those in Clear Creek, Gilpin, Jefferson, and Summit counties. He has served diligently on the Appropriations and Finance Committees, and as chair of the Local Government Committee. In addition he has served in several vital community positions in Colorado, including numerous advisory boards to benefit Aurora and Boulder counties, and is a former member of the Westminster City Council.

Mr. Speaker, I am positive that Glenn’s colleagues and constituents will sorely miss the leadership and compassion that he consistently gave to the State of Colorado, and I thank him for all that he has done for the state. I am honored to bring his accomplishments to the attention of this body of Congress, and wish him all the best in the future. His hard work and dedication truly embodies the spirit of the State, and it is with a great deal of pride that I thank him for his many years of public service.